THE

WEEKLY INSPECTOR.

" Of those men who have overturned the Liberties of Republics, the greatest number
" have begun their career by paying an obsequious court to the People—commencing
" DEMAGOGUES, and ending TYRANTS." HAMILTON.

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FOR THE WEEKLY INSPECTOR.

BEHOLDER.

No. III.

The spirit which the democrats displayed during the two first administrations, and the hopes which they expressed at the prospect of gaining the ascendency, rendered the election of Mr. Jefferson extremely alarming to the friends of independence. The " Watch Tower" had declared that we must have war with England, and that alliance with the French was most desirable; and announced, as a concluding argument in favour of the democratic candidate for the presidency, that ever since the declaration of independence, he had been " the undeviating friend of France." The conclusion from these premises was, that he must be far preferable to Mr. Adams and Mr. Pinckney;—because they were personally odious to the French. When to these declarations were added the general devotedness of the party to France, and the shameful misconduct of Monroe and Randolph, even during the federal administration, the friends of Washington found, in Mr. Jefferson's accession to power, reason for nothing but alarm. They considered his election as a prelude to our future infamy, and the fourth of March, 1801, as the date of our nation's decline. His inaugural speech, however, relieved, for a moment, the fears that were felt, and led to hopes that were soon entirely destroyed. The smooth and apparently sincere disapprobation of " entangling alliances," augured favourably for our foreign transactions; but the first scenes of the drama sufficiently disclosed the character that was to appear in the succeeding acts, and put an end to all hopes of a firm and impartial administration. We first heard the President ordering the prize money of a condemned French schooner, to be paid to the officers who were taken on board of her. The court to which this order was directed, had the courage and honesty to disregard it, and decreed that the money should be paid into the United States' treasury. This is a trifling circumstance in the history of the President's unjustifiable and wicked partiality to France, and would not be mentioned, but as it is one of the first, and shows us the character of the man, and what might be afterwards expected from him. It was an earnest of that surrendry which has been made of our national rights; an act of fealty to a foreign master. In this circumstance, we see the grovelling narrowness of his views, and the radical corruption of that political disease, which he contracted in France. If for so small a sum, the chief magistrate of the United States, for the sake of gratifying his partiality to France, would transcend the bounds of his authority, and violate the laws he had sworn to support, we need not be surprised at the purchase of Louisiana, the interdiction of commerce with St. Domingo, nor the enaction of the non importation law. We might anticipate measures like these, from the party of which such a man is the head.

In the purchase of Louisiana, is to be seen the powerful operation of that spirit, whose destructive influence these

numbers were designed to evince; a spirit of partiality which has ripened into obsequious submission to France. On the eve of war, fifteen millions of dollars were wanted by Bonaparte. They would assist to conquer the nations of Europe. Knowing the importance to us of the navigation of the Missisippi, and knowing the spirit of our administration, he so contrives it, that the port at New-Orleans is occluded. Before Monroe can arrive at Europe to ask explanation, Livingston, the man who wrote to Talleyrand a letter, reproaching England with instigating the conduct of Drake; the man of punctilious propriety in his behaviour as ambassador; Livingston has purchased Louisiana! And did we stand in need of land? Mr. Jefferson had told us we had enough for the hundredth generation. Had we an overflowing treasury? Our public debt had for years been the theme of unceasing clamour. Could peace be preserved in no other way? We have been at war about its boundaries ever since it was purchased. Was a great bargain offered us? If we consider the price, the bounds, and the title, all which were known at the time, and join to these the trouble it has occasioned us since, we must acknowledge that Bonaparte is not only a conquerer, but also a speculator; and that he has egregiously swindled our government, or that they have shamefully imposed upon the people. Fifteen millions was the price of this wilderness, whose bounds no man pretends to know; and worse than all, the United States at this moment have no title to Louisiana. *As France never performed the conditions upon which Spain transferred that country to her, she had no title herself, and, therefore, could give none to us. France never obtained Russia to acknowledge the duke of Parma as king of Etruria, and of course nothing but the inability of Spain, prevents her demanding of France the restoration of Louisiana. It now belongs to Spain, and as soon as it is convenient, France will assist her to take it.* We may then cease to talk of Mobile and Perdido, and get back our millions from France as we can. Mr. Jefferson's umpire, reason, will never recover a cent, and Cheetham's civility of principles, will be equally unsuccessful.

Why then was the treaty of St. Ildefonso ratified, and why did the democrats celebrate the acquisition of Louisiana? Why did they rejoice that a millstone was hung about our neck? The reason is obvious—the price was paid to France. All the peccant humours of their system had been stimulated by foreign drugs, till they were thrown into a delirium, in which friends are taken for foes, and foes for friends. It is, therefore, easy to account for the applause with which the measure was received by the democrats. It was dictated by the same blind madness that shouted when the wooden horse was introduced into Troy, and sang praises when the French army entered into Germany. It was the spirit which Monroe had prematurely declared that the Americans possessed; a spirit that will submit to any thing beneficial to France, or hurtful to England. Had approbation of the purchase proceeded from any thing but a fixed infatuation, it would long since have ceased, and been succeeded by the most determined opposition. The contention about its limits, and the hostility with Spain, which Louisiana has occasioned, are sufficient to damn the popularity of any party, and effect a change in any administration. But democracy, like a maniac, has been kept alive by its madness: the day of its recovery, will be the day of its death. Though blind to the light of truth, and deaf to the voice of reason, we should have expected, at least, that it would have been quickened by a sense of interest. But democracy sets calculation at defiance, and renounces the common principles of human nature.

The prohibition of our commerce with St. Domingo was a still more formal surrender of independence. We know of no reason for the measure, but the command of France. That the Haytians were an independent, a separate people, was proved, not only by

the law of nations, but likewise by the express decree of the French convention. To stop commercial intercourse with them was, therefore, to withhold the benefits of our neutrality from one nation, while we extend them to another, which is the extreme of injustice. But Turreau had demanded, and Dr. Logan thought this was sufficient. Had there been no reason against interdicting this commerce, except the style of France, no friend of his country's honour ought ever to have acceded to the measure. The nation that will submit to hear such language as was used by Turreau on that occasion, and also respecting the claim of de Beaumarchais, and to pass it by without notice;—that nation is gone—it has lost its independence, and ought to lose its name. The insolence of that language was unexampled. But our Congress, meek souls, who mean to lose nothing by "vain punctilio," suffered it to pass unnoticed, and, in the first instance, proceeded to obedience. They will, doubtless, soon do the same in the second; another million will be given to France.

The first session of the ninth Congress will be held in everlasting remembrance. The inhibition of commerce with St. Domingo; the vote of two millions to buy negociation with Spain, or rather with France; (the Pyrenees were long since removed) and the non-importation law, are measures that will never be forgotten. The two former exhibit a servility to France which would disgrace Spain herself; and the latter, a spirit of rancorous hatred to England, which disregards the dictates of policy, and even of justice. Though France, for Spain and France are one, had pirated our commerce, imprisoned our citizens, violated our territory, and invaded the limits settled by the treaty of St. Lorenzo;—though she had *refused negociation*, yet nothing but a vote of two millions of dollars is effected towards obtaining redress. But England, though in a train of amicable adjustment of our disputes, was insulted and abused by the enaction of a law, prohibiting the importation of her merchandize. This measure would have justified England in proclaiming war against us. It was unparalelled in the annals of the political world. England resented it as she ought, and the poor trucking legislators who enacted, were glad, with precipitate haste, to repeal the law. In the lowest deep of national disgrace, the treatment of England sunk us to a lower still. Compare the measures adopted towards Spain and Britain, and weep over the folly and wickedness of our administration.

AMERICANUS.

For the Weekly Inspector.

The following, in answer to a publication which appeared in the People's Friend, was received too late for insertion last week.

TO VINDEX.

Sir,

The defence which you have attempted of Dr. Abercrombie, evinces the warmth of your personal friendship. But, while it proves the fervency of your feelings, it may be thought to derogate from your understanding, and to deviate from the principles of rectitude. It can easily be conceived that a man expressing himself in the height of his "indignant emotions," should lose sight of reason and propriety; and, feeling tenacious of the character of his friend, permit himself to vent his ideas in the glowing language of his passions. I highly applaud your sensibility for your friend, but should have more highly respected your good sense, had you employed it in his defence. Not satisfied that his reputation should be supported by his own merit, you would induce us to think that your eulogy is the base on which it is to rest. Of this, however, the public will judge. As you seem a stickler for decorum, and a sincere inquirer for truth, you might have well spared some of your epithets, and dark insinuations; and have avoided misrepresentations palpable and obvious. However, that zeal is truly great which

could have drawn you from your customary occupation to assume the cudgel of controversy against a writer, whom you consider as undeserving the notice of your friend.—Really, sir, you must then highly estimate your own character.

You represent the writer of the communication as having asserted "that "he thinks it very doubtful whether "any English elementary work *of me-* "*rit* can be altered for the better; or, "if altered, whether any legal claim "can lay for a copy-right." Whether you intended to erect a wind-mill in order that you might buffet it, or to obtain a triumph where there has been no contest, I shall not stop to inquire. But you must be told that here is a misrepresentation of that writer's expressions and sentiments. He has never advanced such doctrines. He said "the books generally selected for the "purpose of alteration, from their very "nature, afford not the smallest "grounds for expecting any real im- "provement." In what way, Mr. VINDEX, can you distort this expression to convey the idea contained in your assertion? To my mind it has not that bearing. After laying down a maxim, drawn from experience, "That perfection is the lot of no mor- "tal being," you would wish to persuade us for that reason, that the work in question, has received very considerable improvement from your friend, Dr. ABERCROMBIE. What is more easy than to state a proposition, and then deduce a conclusion conformably to our wishes? It was incumbent on you, sir, as a vindicator, to have furnished evidence of improvement. The *onus probandi* rested upon you, and not on those who deny.—Before I end this address, however, it will be shown how far your friend may be considered to have made improvements.

It must be admitted, that you are, in some degree, consistent; for having put into the mouth of the writer, a sentiment, relative to the subject of improvement that he never uttered, you persevere in misrepresenting his ideas relative to copy-right.—I hope *some* may think your practice unintentional. He observed, as to copy-right, "It is very doubtful whether there "can, in any instance, be legal grounds "for an American copy-right of an "English book." The writer never observed that, if altered, the *alteration* was not the property of the person making it, as you would have it believed was his opinion. Your perversion of this writer's ideas well suits with your design; but, Mr. VINDEX, the public might have expected a rightful and a candid discussion.

I shall not observe further on this head, but wait for the observations from the very able pen of Mr. Carpenter, with whom you are at issue. Should he not find leisure or feel disposed to notice the cause, and bring it to a trial, you need not expect a discontinuance.

You complain that the writer terms the additions by Dr. ABERCROMBIE, "insignificant, unnecessary, and irrelevant;" and state, "that he has not furnished any data from the work itself, by which the public might judge of the truth or falsehood of the charge." Really, Mr. VINDEX, your memory cannot be uncommonly tenacious, for in your first number you say, "the writer of the communication does not condescend to point out any other defects than the introduction on the first page of a note giving the Latin origin of three words." Unfortunately, sir, I can scarcely comprehend you. What is meant by the introduction on the first page? for they were not taken from the first page. What by the first page of a note, comprehended in five lines, and nearly in the middle of the page? Here you indirectly admit that he has pointed out defects; but it is possible that even a very profound critic, who is accustomed to keep his mind calm, should, acting under the influence of "*indignant emotions*," betray the effects of unusual intemperance. Let me advise you, sir, to keep your temper better. The public will judge of the insignificancy of the additions, as well as of their irrelevancy.

Your friend observes, "A frequent "review, however, of that invaluable "work, (Murray's Grammar) has led "me to remark a few deficiencies, "which the experience of some years "in teaching has convinced me might "be supplied with advantage: partic- "ularly the etymology of the techni- "cal words—a more precise explana- "tion of the tenses than that usually "given—and some other observations "in the course of the work, which "may probably tend to elucidate the "general rules, and render them "more impressive upon the mind of "the student." Wonderful doctor! How lucid are his sentences! But he has not condescended to inform the public whither he intended to supply these few deficiencies. He has, it is true, made some alterations and additions, which will now be cursorily examined.

The first improvement which he was to make, was to give the etymology of the technical terms. In this branch he has really belaboured himself; for out of the 112 notes, 93 are like the following: "Grammar, from the *Greek* word *Gramma*, a letter;—Alphabet, from *Alpha* and *Beta*, the two first letters of the Greek alphabet."

Of such stuff consists six-sevenths of these learned notes. It may be here proper to inquire, wherein consists their importance? Surely any scholar who has studied the Latin and Greek languages, cannot need this superfluity. For if he have not already acquired the etymology, which a knowledge of those Grammars forbids us to deny, he ought to be directed to his Lexicon, which would more deeply impress the requisite information on his memory. If he have not, whence results the advantage? Does an English scholar acquire a more accurate idea of the term Grammar, by being told that it is derived from *Gramma?*—Ridiculous!! Your pedantic friend ought to have added the Greek character. The very sight of it would have rendered the knowledge to the English student intuitive. Is it not the object of the student to learn the signification of the term, as relates to the subject of Grammar? This being obtained, why should he wander then after the derivation? Should some learners inquire whether a word was imported from Upper Germany, France, Italy, or Greece, would it not be more proper that such inquiry should be gratified by a reference to JOHNSON or BAILEY? Why heap up a quantity of learned lumber, which has not immediate relation to the subject? Let it not be understood that I would reflect opprobrium upon a knowledge of these learned languages. No one more than the present writer venerates such learning; but to stuff it into an *Abridgement of English Grammar*, professedly intended "for the contemplation of *very youthful scholars*," is "insignificant, unnecessary, and irrevelant." Before your next number appears, Mr. VINDEX, I would advise you to obtain this Grammar, and make a comparison. If you then can vindicate it, *en masse*, you may hear more on the subject.

The second alleged deficiency is the destitution of a more precise explanation of the tenses. Let us see what mighty additions and elucidations have been made. Dr. ABERCROMBIE observes, under the head of participles, "that the present always ends in *ing*, "the perfect in *ed*; and that the per- "fect passive is formed by prefixing "the present participle of the auxilia- "ry or helping verb *to have*, to the "perfect participle." Marvellous! As if the student, from the examples given by MURRAY, would not have made the same inference. The next note on the tenses, for he has but *three*, although one branch of his mighty additions was professedly on this subject, is relative to the perfect and imperfect. MURRAY says, "the imperfect tense "represents the action or event either "as past or finished, or as remaining "unfinished at a certain time past." Upon this the sage Doctor asks "how "can an action be imperfect which is "past and finished?" He either does not understand the definition, or puts upon it a false construction. Certain-

ly it is easy to conceive an action or event as finished, at the time when a person predicates it of an object, without reference to past time: as, I have finished my letter. Here the action is considered as perfected, without any relation to past time, but conveying an allusion to the present. So an action or event can, at the time of predicating, be easily conceived as finished, with a reference to past time, whether definite or indefinite, or as unfinished at a definite time past—as, I loved her for her modesty. In this instance the passion, as respects the time when the person thus predicated, no longer subsists. It is past and finished. But it is represented as having existed at an indefinite time past. It then was unperfected. Thus the imperfect tense may justly be so termed, while it represents an action as past and finished, at the time when such action is predicated; but as unfinished at the time when it actually existed. He does not seize upon the obvious distinction of MURRAY between the perfect and imperfect tenses. The former alluding only to the present complete perfection of the action—the latter either to the present complete perfection of it, but as perfecting in time past, whether definite or indefinite, when it was imperfected; or to the actual imperfection of it solely at a certain time past.

What advantage can a "*very youthful* scholar" derive from your friend's disquisition on the tenses? It is a subject which has perplexed more manly minds, and called forth the exertions of matured talents. Why, then, perplex a young tyro with it? As he has seen fit to refer to his larger Grammar for a fuller discussion, why not solely refer there, and to others, who have discussed the point as an object worthy of a scholar's *future* attention? His next note, like the first, is too obvious for a scholar under the direction of an instructor disposed to do his duty.

The third point, under the head of deficiencies, he designates by the broad name of "Observations." The remarks under this head will perhaps be more desultory, as they will be upon different notes, &c. upon different topics. MURRAY observes, that "a "preposition may be known by its admitting after it a personal pronoun in "the objective case;" to which ABERCROMBIE subjoins this note: "Or a noun." It may be proper to inquire whether the former is not a more lucid character, by which it may be known. Although a preposition may admit a noun after it, there are instances where a noun solely would not answer. The article or pronoun, or each with an adjective, would have to precede the noun; as, I went *with* the man; the virtue *of* that man is great; *on* a horse; *at* the sacred monument. Thus instead of giving the easy, invariable rule, he adds a more complex and an exceptionable one, where, in some cases, one part of speech precedes the object, and in some two.

In another note he says, "Common "nouns may be divided into *natural*, "*artificial*, and *abstract*." Is this division such as a "*very youthful*" mind would be apt to comprehend? And if he did comprehend it, where to him would be the benefit? It would be of very trifling consequence for a child who did not design to pursue Grammar further than this abridgement, to know this division; and if he should become a complete grammarian, it would, even then, be but speculative. No practical utility could result from it, as respects Grammar. I trust, in parsing, even Dr. ABERCROMBIE would not wish his tyro to designate each noun, and arrange it under one of these heads. As well might he proceed and subdivide each of these into *genera*, *species*, and *individuals*. But, sir, if a person will glean from others who are pre-eminent, to decorate his page with a show of knowledge, let him adhere to what is fact. He says, "Abstract nouns are those "which have no actual or material ex"istence," and, among others, instances *hardness*. Hermes did not teach the Doctor thus. Are you prepared to defend the doctrine that hard-

ness has no material or actual existence; or that it exists independent on matter—that it is not a quality of matter? You are undoubtedly a scholar, and too well acquainted with the force of conclusions, to risk your reputation on the success of a defence of such a doctrine. But, sir, the question is, are such refinements useful in an abridgement? which I leave to be answered by the candid public.

He says, "personal pronouns ex- "press personality." Personal pronouns then are personal pronouns. Indeed! There needs no ghost from the grave, my lord, to tell us that. Here is an exhibition of some of the additions and elucidations. I hope the public will be able to perceive them.

This annotator and elucidator says he "has not presumed, in any "instance, to alter the original text." If he meant by the text, the writings of MURRAY, I must beg leave very civilly to inform the gentleman he is mistaken; for he *has* altered MURRAY in numerous instances, some of which shall be shown. Should you attempt to creep out by saying he has not altered MURRAY'S abridgement, but only interlarded the body of the work with MURRAY'S notes, transposed and mutilated, it will not avail you; for he has further said he has in this work given some of the proposed additions, "with additional *extracts* from the "larger Grammar."

It will appear shortly how he has given *extracts*. He must have known the distinction between *extracts* and *abstracts*; and if so, how can a deviation from his assertion be vindicated? But this is not all; he says, "the ad- "ditions are all printed at the bottom "of the pages, and separated from the "text of Mr. MURRAY by lines, a few "only excepted; which it appeared "necessary to insert in the body of the "pages—these are printed in Italics, "which will sufficiently distinguish "them from the original work." It will be recollected that one of the professed objects of the Doctor was to make additions. For these he obtained his copy-right. He no doubt intended to impress the belief that he had made valuable, and great additions; and, therefore, to strengthen this impression, observed that they are printed at the bottom, except a few which are printed in Italics. What will you say, Mr. VINDEX, on being told that nine tenths of those in Italics are taken from MURRAY himself, but some of them mutilated and mangled? I believe that not more than two or three instances, in Italics, can be shown, where any real addition has been made to MURRAY. Under Rule I, sections 1st, 2d, and 4th, are only transcripts, and section 3d only altered in language. The remark under Rule II. is only an alteration of the terms, not of the ideas. The fact is similar with respect to the two sections under Rule III. to the first under Rule V. to the one under Rule VI. to the 4th under Rule VIII. and to the one under Rule X. As he has made a practical addition to MURRAY'S note under Rule XI. I shall submit it as a lucid specimen of the lucidity of this elucidator. *Let him beware.* "In which, and si- "milar cases, the second verb is in "the infinitive mood, the sign if that "mood *to* being understood." Here no doubt is a lucid collocation, and an accurate punctuation. But I know that more than one have had to repeat the phrase before they could collect the meaning. He first asserts that the second verb is in the infinitive, and then clothes it in a straight jacket, by observing that the sign *if that mood to* being understood.

I might thus proceed and particularly notice the alterations and mutilations of MURRAY under each head: But let it in conscience suffice, that of about twenty extracts and abstracts from MURRAY, under Syntax, twelve are thus mutilated or altered. How finely this elucidator appears in this borrowed plumage! His merit, however, would not be unlike his who should bedawb a rich and magnificent painting in some of its parts, and then present it to the world, claiming the crown of merit, to the prejudice of

the author, who had successfully toiled for years to make it as perfect as could reasonably be expected. I trust, sir, the good sense of the enlightened public will not permit your friend, under the sounding phrase of "additions and illustrations," to rob a beneficent and useful character of *his* honest and richly deserved fame. To you, Mr. VINDEX, he and they are under the greatest obligation; for you have awakened a spirit of inquiry into the general principle of similar publications, and of the particular merits of this, which, it is believed, will redound not only to his advantage, but to that of the whole republic of letters.

LUCIUS.

The first of the following pieces is from a railing muddy-headed democrat, who, as the fashion is with that party, undertook to find fault with what he could not comprehend. The response which succeeds it is a kind of parody on the ridiculous sentiments which the preceding contains, and by exhibiting the miniature sketches of the original on a larger scale, shows the deformity of the picture.

We think that they will be read with avidity not only by the laughter-loving votaries of Comus, but by all who feel an interest in the progress of American literature. They may be said to contain the germ of those celebrated productions which originally appeared in a fugitive form, with the title of "THE ECHO," and which have been collected and published in this city.

FROM THE MIDDLESEX GAZETTE OF JAN. 30, 1790.

MR. WOODWARD,

By giving the following Extract of a Letter to a gentleman in this city, a place in your paper, you will oblige some of your friends.

I WAS exceedingly surprised to see that the Secretary of the Treasury should be induced to report to the House of Representatives in Congress, a plan of Finance which appears to me at once to stab the national character, and to injure the public creditor. All good citizens have been greatly ashamed of the disordered state of our national finances. Many a brave inhabitant of the United States has owned, with confusion, that he belonged to a nation reputed to be destitute of honesty, and without public faith. I have felt my dignity arise upon the adoption of the new Constitution, in proportion to the progress of our reputation. And have flattered myself that the new Government would act upon principles of honour and justice, and still have confidence in it.

But when I read the Secretary's proposals to creditors to return their money at five per cent. I blushed as a young lady, who, sensible that her happiness and success in the world depended entirely upon her innocence and reputation, would at the rude proposal of prostitution. I hope the Secretary meant to marry public faith, after the proposal to dishonour it; the dignity of my feelings as a citizen, however, was wounded by it; and I have heard a number of enlightened creditors speak of it with great disapprobation.

The system of reloaning the public debt is, in reality, compulsive upon the creditors, because otherwise they have held out to them only a probability of reaping some temporary gleanings of an uncertain revenue, and not at any rate to exceed four per cent. This thorny compulsion is covered by the extended sign of plausibility.

I know the national embarrassments have been many; the resources, however, of this young country are adequate to all her exigencies. I do not design to impeach the Secretary; his task was new and difficult, but I believe his intentions were pure. Yet I conceive he is building his system upon the quicksand. Because he imagines the common interest of this country upon money loaned, will within twenty years be at the rate of four per cent. therefore he seems to conclude it is right for government to re-

duce immediately, while in fact the current interest is at six per cent.

According to my logic, &c. &c. &c.

To the Printer of the Middlesex Gazette.

PRINTED IN A GAZETTE OF THE DATE FEB. 6th, 1790.

Sir,

Impressed with the very forcible reasonings of the ingenious writer of a Letter in your last paper, upon the impolicy and injustice of the plan of Finance proposed by the Secretary of the Treasury, I have been induced to present his sentiments in a poetical dress to the public eye. This mode of writing, from its being more easily retained in the memory, I conceive to be the most proper vehicle for such important truths, which ought to be indelibly impressed on the mind of every citizen of the United States.

—

LORD bless us, my friend! I am quite out of breath,
And now begin writing half frighted to death;
From reading the plan of the wise Secretary,
To send Public Faith limping on to Old Harry.
What spell or what charm could induce him to give
Such a scheme to *our* Congress, I cannot conceive;
To me such a scheme of financing appears
Sufficient to justify clipping his ears.
O! how could he play such a barbarous part,
And ruffian-like stab Public Faith to the heart?
The state of finances has caused much distraction,
And Interest and Diffidence join in the faction.
Our citizens good and inhabitants brave,
When landed in Europe, beyond the broad wave,
Have blush'd, like black sheep, to acknowledge their nation,
So lost to truth, honesty, fame, reputation.
And often I've felt, sir, however surprising,
My feelings all trembling, *my* dignity rising,
To hear of the progress that Congress are making
In paying themselves, whilst our purses are shaking;
And often have flatter'd my wise pericrany,
That good Madam Justice, that bed-rid old Granny,
Once more would awake from the torpor of death,
Truth and virtue her crutches, and wisdom her path.
And still do I flatter, and still do believe,
That our new Legislature will never deceive.
As a girl, who, more fearful of sound than of matter,
About reputation still makes a great clatter,
Affectedly blushes, in deepest confusion,
At e'en the bare naming the word prostitution;
So deeply I blush'd at the dire degradation
That four per cent. interest will bring on the nation.
Nor will you imagine from views interested
Arose the concern which I thus manifested;
For tho' scorn of money was never my fau't,
And by some e'n a little too scrimping I'm thought,
Yet such is my zeal for the land's reputation,
That e'en interest is fairly eat up by that passion.
I hope from my soul that the good Secretary,
After all, Public Faith proposes to marry;
That is, in plain English, to make her his wife,
And a good honest woman the rest of her life.
My dignified feelings, however, were wounded,
And, as a good citizen, sorely confounded,
To find that Miss *Faith* is so scurvily us'd;
And many join with me to think her abus'd.
'*This thorny compulsion*,' I very well know,
'*Is cover'd*' all over, from caput to toe,
'*With*' smooth '*plausibility's sign*' far '*extended*,'
And as tight as a drum with a calf-skin new mended.
So may you have chanc'd on a briar-bush spy
Clouts, aprons, and handkerchiefs hung out to dry;
At distance it makes a respectable show,
And nought's to be seen of the bushes below:
But on nearer advancing the truth forces out,
And peeps Mr. Briar from under a clout.
I know very well we have long been embarrass'd,
Our nation by Indians and Devils been harass'd,
But still are we masters of youth, strength, and vigour,
And as we grow larger, we sure shall grow bigger.
I do not design to impeach the good man,
The great Secretary, who laid the wise plan;
His task it was novel, and hard to endure,
Tho' still I believe his intentions were pure.
But yet I conceive that his building will stand
As long as a pig-stye built firm on the sand.
And since he imagines the interest of cash
Will dwindle in twenty years down to mere trash,
It makes me conclude it must be his intent
To reduce it at once down to *nothing per cent.*
Thus, thus, my dear friend, by the force of my logic,
Have I trac'd out the whole of this wiseacre project,
And prov'd very fully, by arguments strong,
That what is not right must surely be wrong.
To have written some more on this subject I meant,

But, alas! my dear sir, all my vigour is spent.
The stream from my pen refuses to flow,
And exhausted, and drooping, to bed I must go.
Thus a half-drowned rat, with a visage so rueful,
Hangs his tail and sneaks off, in condition most woful;
Then, at present, good night; some further occasion
Shall whet up my brains in the cause of the nation.

FEDERAL REPUBLICAN RESOLUTIONS.

At a General Meeting of the Federal Republican Citizens of Albany, convened at the City-Tavern, on Wednesday the 18th of March, 1807, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

This Meeting taking into their serious consideration the present situation of our public affairs, and the existing state of politics and parties in the state of New-York:

Considering that the prevalence of democratic and anti-federal principles in this state for a course of years, has tended to sow dissentions, spread discontent, promote injustice, impair public confidence, weaken the hands of government, and gradually to bring our state affairs to a crisis that demands the attention of all public spirited citizens;

Considering that this prevailing spirit, having arrived at the point at which a powerful and dominant party divides into rival factions, is at length removing from the public mind the prejudices created by its own intrigues, and thus awakening the People to reflection;

Considering that these feuds and dissentions among our political opponents, while they tend to remove popular prejudices and to moderate that tyranny of party which has heretofore been practised, tend also to weaken the energy of the existing Government, in which we are all interested as citizens, and thus seriously to affect the public interests and welfare;

Considering, therefore, that the present crisis not only presents a fit occasion, but makes it an incumbent duty, for disinterested and public spirited men to exert their influence, to express their sentiments, and to consult together for the public good; Thereupon,

Resolved, As the sense of this Meeting, that it is fit and proper that Federal Republicans should embrace the present occasion to communicate their sentiments on the state of public affairs, and to exhibit to the view of their fellow-citizens at large, the principles that influence their minds and actuate their conduct.

Resolved, As the sense of this Meeting, that the general prosperity and growing wealth of our country bear testimony to the value of those Federal Republican principles which laid the foundation of our Union; and conducted the steps of our patriots and sages during the first ten years of our National Administration, and that we cherish, with the pride of freemen and patriots, the sentiments and feelings that influenced the measures of those days.

Resolved, That the maintenance of public justice, the encouragement and protection of commerce, enlightened plans and liberal provisions for public defence, and a stable and energetic system of civil administration, are among the primary objects of the Constitution, and the first duties of the Government under which we live; and that the general neglect and various recent instances of disregard of those principles, manifest the weakness of our present National Administration, and disappoint the just expectations of the Nation at large, and of this State in particular.

Resolved, That the feeble, narrow, and time-serving policy pursued by that Administration, and the inadequacy of its measures to the wants of a great and growing, but disunited and unprotected people, naturally turn our attention to our State authorities and jurisdictions, and press upon us the expediency of general and united efforts to increase the respectability of our State Government in its various departments.

Resolved, That the citizens now assembled, being in duty bound as Federal Republicans, to seek the general good of the community, and not that of a sect, do utterly disclaim all concern or interest in the present contentions of democratic parties, and look forward with confidence to that period when the public service, and not the personal interest of men, will be the governing objects of our public elections and appointments: That when that period shall arrive, they assure themselves that a large, weighty, and respectable portion of the community, whom intrigue, usurpation, and tyranny, have effected to proscribe, but who, though oppressed, have never been degraded nor dishonoured, will enjoy that consideration and influence in public affairs, which the public good demands, and to which they are justly entitled, not merely as Federalists, but as freemen and friends to liberty and good government: That in the pursuit of those general objects and measures of public reform, and of liberal policy, which the welfare of this State at the pre-ent juncture so urgently calls for, they pledge themselves hereby to each other and their country, (and trust that in this they express the sense of Federalists throughout the State) that they are stimulated by no party-interest, that no hope of office or emolument shall influence, no fear of the power of

others, shall deter them from all proper and honourable exertions.

Resolved, As the sense of this Meeting, that in our free country the right of popular election is not the less to be prized, but rather the more to be cherished, in consequence of its occasional abuses; that this right, under the auspices of the Constitution and the protection of Divine Providence, is the main pillar of our security; that it is therefore the duty, as it should be the pride, of freemen on all occasions to exercise this right with a zeal proportioned to the public interests at stake; and under psesent circumstances, to use increased exertions to augment the number of able, patriotic, and public spirited men in our State Legislature.

Resolved, As the sense of this Meeting, that in the ensuing election for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, it is a duty that Federal Republicans owe themselves, their principles, and the community, to use, for the best good of their country, the franchise which they enjoy in common with their fellow-citizens at large; and to make a choice between the respective candidates nominated: That in making such choice they ought to be guided by a liberal view of the public interests, and to select and support such of the respective candidates as may seem least exceptionable in relation to the great points of difference between Federalists and their adversaries, and most likely to favour and promote those moderate, independent, and liberal principles, and those reforming and healing measures, which are so necessary to the public tranquillity.

By order of the Meeting,
JOHN H. WENDELL, *Chairman.*
TEUNIS VAN VECHTEN, *Sec'ry.*

We have ever been disposed to attribute the wonderful success of the French, since their revolutionary era, to *Propagandism*, or, in other words, to the poison of their principles, circulated by their emissaries; and corrupting the *mind* of the nations they proposed to attack. That we were correct in that particular, every page of the history of their progress renders abundantly evident. We will now advert to one instance of thousands which might be given to corroborate our assertions.

The successes of Custine, a French revolutionary general in 1792, are thus commented on by the Abbé Barruel:

"Of all the French Generals no one, "perhaps, was more inflated with his successes than Custine; and certainly he "had little reason to expect them, as he "was destitute of those talents and that intrepidity which denotes the great general. "Nevertheless, Europe with astonishment "beheld him in one campaign making himself master of Worms, Spire, and even "Mayence. But when Europe shall know "how these conquests were prepared, its "astonishment will subside, and its indignation will arise against the treacherous offspring of *Spartacus*-Weishaupt."

We cannot believe that, at that early period of the revolution, the tactics of the French were so decidedly superior to those of their opponents, as to give them at a single stroke what would have baffled their Turennes and Condés for whole campaigns. Besides, we find their greatest conquests have been achieved in countries which have been most noted as the theatres of illuminism. The Russians have not arrived to that state of false refinement, which fits them to become the tools of the philosophists of revolution; and the English in general are too enlightened to be wrought upon by these imps of darkness. But Prussia and Germany are known to have been the *sinks of philosophism*, and hot beds of the *anti-social conspiracy*. Hence the French have merely to make their appearance in those countries, and after a little *sham-fighting*, all is theirs.

We think, however, that there may be much truth in the following extract, which states the deplorable situation of Prussia, as respected her means of defence, previous to her late disasters.

BATTLE OF JENA.

Whoever is acquainted with the Prussian States, will certainly see with vexation an edifice undermined, that once contained so

much excellence, and which might so easily once more have retrieved its ancient dignity and consistency, if the heads of the Empire had understood the prognostics of the times, and had been willing to submit to a few necessary reforms. A reform was particularly requisite in that part of the military system which excluded from all promotion in the army the most learned and enlightened men in society, viz. the higher classes of the citizens, not of the rank of nobility; and it is remarkable, that an order issued in France, similar to that which appeared in Prussia some years ago, permitting the nobility alone to be promoted, preceded the disturbances in the army which ended in the breaking out of the revolution.

Those who are well informed on the subject assure us, that Prince Lewis Ferdinand of Prussia, the night before the battle of Saldfeldt, in which he fell, foretold to several of his confidential friends the fate of the Prussian army. The counsels of Col. Von Pfuhl were never listened to from the beginning.

Three principal errors probably hurled the Prussian army into the gulf of destruction. The first was an inconceivable disregard of any thing like a regular plan, and a heedless security. Only a few hussars were stationed in the Thuringer wood and hills, the passes and fastnesses of which could have been insurmountably defended against the most superior force in the world by a few cannon and sharp shooters. It is incredible, but nevertheless true, that the Prussian generals left all the most important passes on the Saal unoccupied; and when this was remarked by some of the Saxon engineers, they were laughed at as if no enemy could come there. The Prussians had almost no reconnoitering parties, and they never suspected that the Emperor of the French, with his main body, had advanced within a few miles of them.

How differently was the Emperor Napoleon supplied in this respect; and how far superior was he in point of vigilance and activity. When he had fixed his headquarters at Auma, early in the morning two prisoners were brought in who had been seized as spies. It soon appeared, however, that they were very honest men, as in their answer they completely coincided with each other. One of them was the son of the celebrated Scottish Baronet, Sir John Sinclair, who was studying at the university of Gottingen, and having been on a visit to Gotha, the road by which he was returning was cut off, and he was travelling through the Prussian main army to Leipzig. His companion was a garrison preacher of Gotha. The young Scotsman had a plan of study drawn up by his father in his pocket-book, and soon proved his innocence. The Emperor himself conversed with him so early as two o'clock in the morning, and when he had learned from them that the Prussians had no suspicion of his being so near, he exclaimed, turning to the by-standers, "Ils se trompe-rout furieusement ces perruques!!" (How these wise-acres will be deceived!). Both were kindly dismissed with passports.

The Prussian patroles allowed themselves to be cheated by the most trifling appearances. An officer commanding a body of horse, which was sent out from the royal camp towards Naumburg, to reconnoitre, returned without going to Naumburg, because when half way he learned from a traveller that they knew nothing of the French at Naumburg. From such extraordinary security no other consequences could follow.

The second grand error was the unaccountable neglect of every means for securing subsistence for an army of 140,000 men. The barren country of Weimar was in no condition, neither was it by any means prepared, to subsist this army along with its appendages. There was no bread, no brandy, no beer, for the soldiers, and no fodder for the horses.

The third and most decisive error lay in the false calculations that were made respecting the movements of the enemy, and the unfortunate choice of positions.

The ancient fortresses and bulwarks of the Prussian Monarchy, which would have greatly obstructed the progress of the French army, were in an untenable condition, and without provisions; and in the event that the battle was to have been lost, there was no place of assembling made known, no rallying point was fixed upon. The discomfited corps therefore retired in quite different directions, and were almost all made prisoners.

On the decisive day, the 14th of October, the left wing was not formed in the same line, nor united with the centre. This want of unity had this effect—that two separate and distinct battles were fought at one and the same moment, and that upon ground not very extensive. After the Duke of Brunswick was wounded, there was no Commander in Chief to direct the Prussian army. The corps fought singly, without plan, and without concert, and many regiments did not engage at all; very little of the strength or position of the enemy was known. The Saxons, who fought on the left wing, generally assert, that on the day of battle they either received no orders at all from the Officers under whose commands they were, or that the orders they did receive were such as could not have been executed. They were soon obliged to deliver up their remaining ammunition to the Prussians, and they lost their cannon when the retreat began, in consequence of having no cavalry to cover them. Lastly, the Prussian army was detained and hindered in its flight by the crowd of waggons and horses, and their unusually great quantity of baggage. This

complete overthrow and destruction was not owing, however, to any want of bravery. That the Prussians, under all these difficulties, fought with bravery and perseverance, is testified by the French themselves.

The victorious Emperor Napoleon conducted the events of the 14th of October with steadiness and the keenest prudence. He lodged the night before this eventful day in the castle of Jena, and on the following morning, as is asserted at Jena, he reconnoitered from the top of the old observatory, (commonly called the Fox Tower) the opposite heights on the road to Weimar, and witnessed the bloody battle that took place between the French that were marching through the Muhlenthal and the Saxons and Prussians posted on the Sneckenberg. Not far from this spot is the chain of sandy hillocks, which present, as it were, a steep wall on the heights of the Saal. There is here a coppice, known through the whole neighbourhood by the name of the Rauthales, a place celebrated in the annals of the Jena Muses, on account of the combats that used formerly to take place between the students at that spot. This is the pass which the Emperor Napoleon fortified so strongly, and in such a masterly manner, with heavy cannon, and which is spoken so highly of in all the official accounts of the battle. Besides this, the rapidity of the evolutions of the French army astonished the Prussian Generals. In every manœuvre attempted by the latter they were anticipated. What, however, most surprised these officers, was the French artillery. The most courageous soldiers could not approach the showers of balls which preceded the march of the columns, without trembling. The regiment of Larish, for example, was 2000 men strong, and in a few minutes only 150 men were left standing, having been stationed opposite to a battery of eight field pieces.

The preceding statement, so far as relates to the want of preparation on the part of Prussia, may be perfectly correct, and still we may trace the cause of the downfal of Prussia to those *desolating principles*, which threaten to make man a savage, and the world a wilderness. French agents, or propagandists, have been active in Prussia, as they now are in America, in disarming the nation, forming a party in the councils of the kingdom, and dissuading from what they styled *war measures*. The true patriots who foresaw, and attempted to provide against the invasion of Bonaparte, were denounced by French journalists, as a *war faction*. Thus every sinew of national strength was cut, and every limb of the body politic was crippled, before Bonaparte stirred from Paris.

Hence the confidence with which the French anticipated their successes, as manifested in their vaunting Bulletins. Bonaparte declared, as well he might, that the issue of the contest *was not doubtful*. He knew that merely a *sham defence* would be made. He knew that his emissaries had taken such measures in Prussia, that nothing but a *sham defence* could be made. He therefore marches to certain conquest, and the army of Prussia vanishes before him like the mist of the morning before the rising sun.

This is not mere conjecture and speculation; proofs, damning proofs, may be found in every step of the French progress in Europe;—Switzerland, Sardinia, Lombardy, Genoa, Lucca, Parma, Tuscany, Venice, Naples, Holland, Spain, Prussia, in short, every kingdom, province, or city, which is now incorporated with the immense empire of Bonaparte, afford innumerable examples of treachery, excited by French propagandists. Custrin, Stettin, Spandau, Erfuth, and Magdeburgh, were betrayed by traitors. New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, Charleston, would experience the same fate, should a French armament appear before them.

The first step by way of defending against France, must be to ferret her faction out of a country. The faction of France in Prussia, was the cause of her armies being so badly appointed

and provided for; and the same faction in this country would be the means of America's being found in a still more unprepared state.

Commodore Truxtun *and Burr's Conspiracy.*

Among the measures which are taken by the party in power to extinguish every spark of patriotism, may be reckoned as most prominent their unrelenting persecution of those patriots whose lives have been devoted to the service of their country. They commenced their political career with vilifying Washington and Adams, and they proceed by traducing the characters, and misrepresenting the views, of the men to whose exertions we are indebted for our very existence as a nation. In conformity to this practice, and in order to excite an unseasonable and unjust hatred against Great-Britain, the democratic newspapers have teemed with slanderous reports relative to a British fleet to be fitted out in Jamaica, placed under the command of Commodore Truxtun, and destined to co-operate with Burr.

What motives except those above stated, could have induced our Government to send dispatches from New-Orleans, by the schooner Eliza, to the Governor of Jamaica, and to the British Admiral on that station? And why are those dispatches and the answer of the British commander kept a secret? These documents could not fail to throw light on the subject of this pretended coalition. They would either tend to implicate Commodore Truxtun in the conspiracy, or to prove his innocence. The public, as well as the calumniated individual, have a right to a knowledge of their contents, and we would call on Government to publish them. It is unjust, ungenerous, and cruel, to suffer suspicion to fasten on Commodore Truxtun, when they might dispel it by a breath.

The letter in cypher, communicated by Wilkinson *, says, "T.† is gone to Jamaica to arrange with the admiral on that station," and likewise developes other parts of the plan. Yet with this letter in possession of the Government, which one would suppose would be conclusive against Burr, a jury at the Natchez not only acquitted him, but presented the Government for meddling with him!!

Indeed, when we take into consideration the testimony of Gen. Eaton, the proofs which Wilkinson either found or manufactured against Burr, the flight of Blennerhasset and Tyler, and many other mysterious circumstances on the one hand, the violent and unjustifiable conduct of Wilkinson, the acquittal of Burr by two different juries, the remissness o the general Government in his prosecution, the attempts of Mr. Jefferson's friends to implicate in this real or pretended conspiracy such men as Truxtun, Stoddert, and other distinguished patriots, but not of Mr. Jefferson's sect, together with many other circumstances which go to corroborate our belief, we fear that the whole is a piece of political juggling, a mere tub to the whale, to divert the minds of the people from attending to the alarming situation in which the improvident imbecility, to say the least, of our national Government has placed the country.

* See W. I. Vol. I. page 272.

† In the marg'n Truxtun is mentioned at length.

FEDERAL MEETING.

On the evening of the 25th instant, the Federalists of this city met at the Mechanic Hall, to receive the report of the Committee appointed to nominate a Senator and Member of the House of Assembly, from this city. A more numerous and respectable assembly, it is said, has never on a similar occasion been convened in this city. As some unexpected avocations prevented our attendance, we shall give an abstract from the daily papers of the proceedings on this occasion.

The room, although one of the largest in the city, was crowded at an early hour, great numbers who could not get in, stood in the street before the door.

JOHN B. COLES, Esq. was called to the chair. DAVID B. OGDEN, having been appointed by the Committee who framed the ticket to report it, addressed the assembly in an elegant and masterly manner.

He adverted to the prosperous state of the Union during the administration of WASHINGTON, aided by the counsels of HAMILTON, when MILLIONS FOR DEFENCE, NOT A CENT FOR TRIBUTE, was the national sentiment. He observed, that although Mr. Jefferson had been elected to the Presidency contrary to the wishes, and against the exertions of the Federal party, still they suffered their hopes to obtain the ascendency over their fears, and that if Mr. Jefferson had abided by his promises made at his inaugural speech, the Federalists had been spared their present exertions. But instead of that, his conduct was in direct hostility to his professions, and only served to prove him to be one of the most unprincipled of those men, who, by flattering and cajoling the people, raise themselves at the expense, and to the great detriment of the nation.

Mr. Jefferson pretended to possess a great regard for the Constitution, and boasted of his vigilance over the public money, yet one of his first official acts was to take 50,000 dollars out of the public treasury, without any appropriation by law, to pay for the repairs of the French corvette, the BERCEAU. This vessel had been taken by our brave seamen, after an obstinate combat, and Mr. Jefferson had the temerity to order 30,000 dollars out of the public treasury to repair her injuries.

He next adverted to the flagrant case of Callender, whom he rewarded for his infamous attacks on the federal government with 200 dollars, taken out of the treasury of the United States, contrary both to law and the constitution. He then spoke of the attack upon the Judiciary, to gratify Mr. Jefferson's malevolence against the federal judges. The blot on our national character in first permitting Spain to violate her treaty in relation to New-Orleans, and then by a pretended purchase of Louisiana, a country without any definite boundaries, for fifteen millions of dollars, attempting to smother the controversy. He spoke of the *two millions* of TRIBUTE voted to France or Spain, or some other power, by an act passed with closed doors.

Mr. O. reprobated the conduct of Government respecting the application for a defence of this city—and the curious and humiliating fact that neither Mr. Mumford nor Mr. Clinton, our representatives, would open their lips on the subject, but that New-York was indebted to Mr. Quincy, the Boston representative, for all the exertions which were made in this all important concern. That this year our orators had by dint of great abilities procured a grant of the vast sum of 20,000 dollars, to be expended in the defence of the whole Atlantic coast. That afterwards, alarmed at the decline of the Clintonian faction, it was agreed to appropriate a part of the 300,000 intended for gun-boats, to fortifying our sea-coast. But if information lately received could be relied on, not a cent of this money would be expended on New-York. That the inhabitants on the sea-coast would cheerfully bear their proportion of the expense in protecting the Western country, and that the unwillingness to reciprocate the obligation could alone be imputed to Mr. J——n's antipathy to cities and to commerce.

Mr. O. lastly spoke of the Miranda expedition, gave a pathetic picture of the sufferings of our fellow-citizens who had been concerned in that enterprise, and their sufferings being disregarded by our administration, which had itself countenanced it.

This speech was received with the greatest enthusiasm. Loud applauses, and "*three cheers for that*," were frequently and unanimously given.

At the conclusion of his speech, the orator handed the following ticket, which was received with the highest marks of approbation.

For Senator—Samuel Jones.

Assembly.

Rufus King, Andrew Morris,
Mathew Clarkson, Abraham Russell,
Egbert Benson, Josiah Ogden Hoffman,
John Townsend, [man,
Richard Varick, William Henderson.

The pre-occupancy of our columns renders it impossible, this week, to give the speech of Mr. Harison. It shall adorn our columns next week, as reported by the able Editor of the Evening Post.

THE TREATY.

WASHINGTON, March 21.---So much has been said, and so contradictory have been the reports, respecting the Treaty, or the articles intended for a Treaty, lately signed at London by the American and British ministers, that conjecture has been baffled, and opinion wanted data to rest upon.

We believe we have it now in our power to relieve the public mind from that uncertainty in which it has heretofore been suspended. The Treaty will be immediately returned to London for further negociation. For this purpose the Wasp ship of war is ordered to be got ready for sea immediately---the officers are selected; the crew completed, and Thursday next is named as the day on which she is to